
Disability Studies (BA)

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URL: http://sps.cuny.edu/programs/ba_disabilitystudies

THE PROGRAM

Disability Studies is an emerging academic field which explores disability and society using overlapping perspectives from the social sciences, humanities, science, and the law. The online Bachelor's Degree in Disability Studies (B.A.) offers both a strong foundation in disability theory and history as well as opportunities for in-depth study in one of four concentrations.

Students in the online Bachelor's Degree in Disability Studies will:

- Learn the history that many textbooks overlook;
- Acquire new ways of thinking about disability;
- Explore socio-medical aspects of disability and the social and physical barriers to full inclusion and integration;
- Learn how to interpret disability law and policy;
- Read first-hand experiences of people with disabilities; and
- Explore what it means to live with a disability.

Career Prospects

Graduates of the online Bachelor's Degree in Disability Studies program will be equipped with the knowledge, values, and skills that are sought by agencies providing services to individuals in community programs. Graduates will also be prepared for graduate work in disability studies, social work, rehabilitation counseling, physical and occupational therapy, education, sociology, psychology, anthropology, and liberal studies.

Program Requirements

120 credits are required for the online Bachelor's Degree in Disability Studies.

- General Education - 39 credits required
- Required Disability Studies Courses - 33 credits
 - Level I – six credits
 - Level II – 12 credits
 - Concentration – nine credits
 - Disability Studies electives - nine credits. Credits may be in the chosen concentration or in another concentration.
- General Electives - 48 credits. General electives may be chosen from the Disability Studies courses or courses in other degree programs.

Level I: Introductory Courses

- DSAB 200 - Disability and Society
- DSAB 201 - Disability and Embodiment

Level II: Core Courses

- DSAB 207 - Law, Policy and Disability
- DSAB 208 - Disability in History
- DSAB 209 - Disability Narratives
- RM 201 – Introduction to Research Methods

Level II: Concentrations: Exploration and Application - Students select one of the following four concentrations:

Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

Students must complete six credits in the following:

- DSAB 311 - Elements of Person Centered Planning
- DSAB 312 - Supporting Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities

Students must also complete three credits from the following courses:

- DSAB 213 - Transition and Adulthood
- DSAB 251 - Disability and Families
- DSAB 214 - Traumatic Brain Injury: Causes and Systems of Care
- DSAB 252 - Vocational Mentoring
- DSAB 211 - Aging and Disability
- DSAB 212 - Introduction to Residential Services
- DSAB 342 - Representations of Disability in Film and Literature
- NURS 314 - Case Management in Health and Human Services

Autism Spectrum Disorders

Students must complete six credits in the following:

- DSAB 321 - Using Assessments for Intervention, Planning and Placement
- DSAB 322 - Teaching Strategies and Behavioral Supports

Students must also complete three credits from the following courses:

- DSAB 223 - Autism Spectrum Disorder in Young People
- DSAB 225 - Speech and Communication Issues in Autism Spectrum Disorder
- DSAB 224 - Inclusion: Principles in Practice
- DSAB 252 - Vocational Mentoring
- DSAB 222 - Autism Narratives
- DSAB 221 - Asperger Syndrome Across the Life Cycle
- DSAB 251 - Disability and Families
- DSAB 358 - Selected Topics in Disability Studies
- DSAB 359 - Independent Study in Disability Studies
- DSAB 449 - Internship in Disability Studies
- NURS 314 - Case Management in Health and Human Services

Mental/Behavioral Health

Students must complete six credits in the following:

- DSAB 331 - Introduction to Mental, Behavioral and Developmental Disorders
- DSAB 332 - Introduction to Crisis-Intervention and Safety

Students must also complete three credits from the following courses:

- DSAB 233 - Elements of Behavioral Health Counseling
- DSAB 235 - Peer Wellness and Recovery
- DSAB 232 - Dual Diagnosis
- DSAB 252 - Vocational Mentoring
- DSAB 251 - Disability and Families
- DSAB 231 - Community Mental Health
- DSAB 234 - Mad People's History
- DSAB 358 - Selected Topics in Disability Studies
- DSAB 359 - Independent Study in Disability Studies
- NURS 314 - Case Management in Health and Human Services

Disability Studies

Students must complete six credits in the following:

- DSAB 341 - Disability, Evolution, Eugenics and Genomics
- DSAB 342 - Representations of Disability in Film and Literature

Students must also complete three credits in the following courses:

- DSAB 244 - Diversity and Disability
- DSAB 245 - Universal Design and Assistive Technology
- DSAB 251 - Disability and Families
- DSAB 246 - War, Veterans, and Disability
- DSAB 242 - Disability and Mass Media
- DSAB 243 - Disability, Music and The Arts

- DSAB 241 - Disability and Comparative Religion
- DSAB 358 - Selected Topics in Disability Studies
- DSAB 359 - Independent Study in Disability Studies

Level IV. Integration

Students must complete three credits in the following courses:

- DSAB 499 - Capstone: Senior Research Project
- DSAB 449 - Internship in Disability Studies

MINORS IN DISABILITY STUDIES

Students who wish to develop their knowledge of disability have an option of completing Disability Studies coursework comprising a minor in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Mental and Behavioral Health, or Interdisciplinary Disability Studies. While there are no prerequisite courses in the minor sequences, it is strongly recommended that students complete DSAB 200, Disability and Society first, or take it concurrently with other Disability Studies courses.

Minor Requirements

Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities - 12 credits as follows:

Required

DSAB 200 – Disability and Society

Take One

DSAB 207 - Law, Policy and Disability
 DSAB 208 - Disability in History
 DSAB 209 - Disability Narratives

Take Two

DSAB 200 - Disability and Society
 DSAB 207 - Law, Policy and Disability
 DSAB 208 - Disability in History
 DSAB 209 - Disability Narratives
 DSAB 311 - Elements of Person Centered Planning
 DSAB 312 - Supporting Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities
 DSAB 251 - Disability and Families
 DSAB 212 - Introduction to Residential Services
 DSAB 213 - Transition and Adulthood
 DSAB 214 - Traumatic Brain Injury: Causes and Systems of Care
 DSAB 252 - Vocational Mentoring
 DSAB 211 - Aging and Disability

Autism Spectrum Disorder Minor- 12credits as follows:

Required

DSAB 200 – Disability and Society
 DSAB 207 – Law, Policy and Disability

Take Two

DSAB 200 - Disability and Society
 DSAB 207 - Law, Policy and Disability
 DSAB 222 - Autism Narratives
 DSAB 251 - Disability and Families
 DSAB 321 - Using Assessments for Intervention, Planning and Placement
 DSAB 322 - Teaching Strategies and Behavioral Supports
 DSAB 221 - Asperger Syndrome Across the Life Cycle
 DSAB 225 - Speech and Communication
 DSAB 224 - Inclusion: Principles in Practice
 DSAB 223 - Autism Spectrum Disorder in Young People

Mental and Behavioral Health Minor- 12credits as follows:

Required

DSAB 200 – Disability and Society
 DSAB 207 – Law, Policy and Disability

Take Two

DSAB 332 - Introduction to Crisis Intervention and Safety
 DSAB 233 - Elements of Behavioral Health Counseling
 DSAB 235 - Peer Wellness and Recovery
 DSAB 234 - Mad People's History
 DSAB 331 - Introduction to Mental, Behavioral and Developmental Disorders
 DSAB 232 - Vocational Mentoring

DSAB 232 - Dual Diagnosis
DSAB 231 - Community Mental Health

Interdisciplinary Disability Studies- 12 credits as follows:

Required	Take One	Take two
DSAB 200 – Disability and Society	DSAB 201 - Embodiment and Disability DSAB 207 - Law, Policy and Disability DSAB 208 - Disability in History DSAB 209 - Disability Narratives	DSAB 341 - Disability, Evolution, Eugenics and Genomics DSAB 342 - Representations of Disability in Film and Literature DSAB 246 - War, Veterans and Disability DSAB 244 - Diversity and Disability DSAB 245 - Universal Design and Assistive Technology DSAB 242 - Disability and Mass Media DSAB 243 - Disability, Music and the Arts DSAB 241 - Disability and Comparative Religion

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DSAB 200 Disability and Society 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Students will engage disability in a variety of sociopolitical and cultural contexts, including their own personal values and beliefs as they relate to disability, and evaluate these as they explore disability and society. Students will be introduced to Disability Studies theory and vocabulary, and models which frame disability discourse. Students will be introduced to Disability Studies as it emerged from the Disability Rights Movement, explore disability in art and literature, investigate and critique current systems of care as they relate to self-determination and inclusion, analyze the role of poverty and work, explore disability as it intersects with race and gender, and learn about disability in a global context.

DSAB 201 Disability and Embodiment 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on issues related to embodiment and the biological and medical aspects of disability. Students will learn the difference between understanding of disability as a medical problem and as a social construction. Identification, prevalence, clinical manifestations, cognitive, behavioral and social implications and interventions associated with genetic causes of disabilities and the debates surrounding genetic and other 'cures' (e.g. cochlear implants, cosmetic surgery, and other interventions) will be examined. Students will explore how bodies become gendered, raced, classed and sexualized in ways that create and reinforce social institutions, relations of power, and stigma. An analysis of the built environment and its effect on mobility, access and autonomy will be presented and discussed. Students will explore the relationship between Disability Studies and bioethics, including prenatal testing and assisted suicide.

DSAB 207 Law, Policy and Disability 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course examines how the federal government treats discrimination against persons with disabilities in three areas: public life (public accommodations, such as transportation and housing), education, and private life in terms of employment. Divided into four parts, the course first briefly examines the structure and function of the American legal system. Second, the course examines the origins of the disability rights movement and the ways this movement contributed to the drafting of these anti-discrimination disability laws. Third, it reviews the statutes themselves-Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as how federal courts, particularly the Supreme Court, have interpreted them. The course will also analyze how these laws are enforced. It will pay special attention to how these laws compose a public policy. Finally, the course concludes by briefly reviewing how the ADA has influenced the United Nations, which recently passed its own recommendations for disability rights laws.

DSAB 208 Disability in History 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Disability has a long history, which has been hidden until recently. Specifically, as historian Douglas C. Baynton has written, "Disability is everywhere in history, once you begin to look for it, but conspicuously absent from the histories we write." This

course questions the lack of inclusion of disability in the teaching of history up until recent years. In doing so, it constructs a history of persons with disabilities in the U.S. by concentrating primarily on the modern era beginning with institutionalization in the Jacksonian and Civil War eras and ending with the modern Disability Rights, deinstitutionalization, parent advocacy and self-advocacy movements, as well as treatment of disabled veterans. The course reviews the history of persons with disabilities, including some of the Western, pre-modern notions of disability, such as the sacred or profane, ugly or grotesque, and highlighting the so-called hierarchy of disabilities.

DSAB 209 Disability Narratives 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course explores the individual, cultural, social and political meaning of disability, as seen through the eyes of people with disabilities themselves. It does so by studying narratives of various authors with different disabilities, or those that have been intimately involved with disabled individuals. The concept of 'life writing' is explored, followed by a close reading of a number of narratives. Texts will be compared and contrasted as students analyze texts from a number of perspectives.

DSAB 211 Aging and Disability 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

The focus of this course is an exploration of aging and disability from multiple theoretical and applied perspectives. The socio-cultural construction of aging and individual and social models of aging and disability will be explored, along with the social dimensions that impact on the community integration of people aging with a variety of disabilities, but with an emphasis on intellectual disabilities. Students will learn the dynamics of aging from three major perspectives: person-centered, lifespan, and systems of care.

DSAB 212 Introduction to Residential Services 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on the theoretical and practical principles of treatment and services in residential settings for those who need constant and consistent supervision in their living arrangements. The role of activities, routine, structure, group and group dynamics will be studied along with legal and regulatory aspects involved in providing residential services. Students will explore strategies to maintain individualized services to those living in a group setting.

DSAB 213 Transition and Adulthood 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course explores the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including transition from school, and issues of segregation in living arrangements and housing, work, stigma and psychosocial issues, autonomy and self-advocacy, poverty, sexuality, parenthood and family life, religious life and older adulthood. Systems of care and access will be examined and analyzed.

DSAB 214 Traumatic Brain Injury: Causes and Systems of Care 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) can be caused by a blow to the head, a fall, or a motor vehicle accident. Approximately 230,000 American each year are hospitalized with TBI, and 3.1 million children and adults are living with an acquired traumatic brain injury. This course will explore existing systems of care, the recovery course and psychosocial aspects of TBI, as well as the effects of personal and environmental factors, including drug and alcohol use, on recovery. Particular attention will be given to the veterans of recent wars who have sustained TBI, and their reintegration into society.

DSAB 221 Asperger Syndrome Across the Life Cycle 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course will explore the benefits and challenges faced by individuals diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome, and Asperger's relation to the other Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The focus of the course will be developing and providing effective supports to children, young people attending college, and adults who may need assistance in locating and maintaining employment. The class will utilize the perspectives of people who have an Asperger diagnosis, through narratives, social media and videos, to illustrate course topics, and provide practical interventions, strategies and supports.

DSAB 222 Autism Narratives 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Recent decades have witnessed an influx of disability narratives, which offer a window into the life experience of disabled children and adults, and have resulted in new perspectives about their abilities and experiences. In this course we will

critically examine the ways in which autism has been framed and discussed across a wide range of cultural narratives, including literary fiction, commercial cinema, social media and news media. We will read first-person life narratives, exploring the impact on individuals, families, social and educational contexts.

DSAB 223 Autism Spectrum Disorder in Young People 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on the characteristics of young children with autism spectrum disorders, the effects of having a child with autism on the family, parental roles, and intervening approaches designed to meet the special needs of this population. Students learn to identify early signs of possible autism spectrum disorders, understand the differences between the different types of diagnoses of these disorders, and understand the evaluation processes and terms used to describe children with these disorders. The course is especially geared to serve the professional needs of teachers who work in classrooms.

DSAB 224 Inclusion: Principles in Practice 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

A growing number of students with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) who were previously placed in segregated school settings are being educated in general education classrooms. Effectively educating students with ASD requires an understanding of their unique social, communicative and behavioral challenges. This course will include a study of the history of special education and inclusion, legal issues related to appropriate education, fostering social development and communication, instructional and classroom management strategies, staff training and the collaboration between home and school.

DSAB 225 Speech and Communication Issues in Autism Spectrum Disorder 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Impairments in verbal and nonverbal communication, combined with social deficits, are hallmark traits of autism spectrum disorder. For individuals with ASD across all functioning levels, speech and communication are important to evaluate and address throughout the life span. In this course we will explore the myriad of communication needs within ASD, including nonverbal language, conversation skills and socialization. Strategies for assessment and intervention will be discussed, as well as evidence-based communication recommendations for home, school and recreational settings.

DSAB 231 Community Mental Health 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces the student to the array of mental health services from inpatient to community based agencies. The history of mental health assistance, along with current service delivery systems is explored. This includes mobile crisis intervention, partial hospitalization, day treatment, outpatient community mental health centers, clubs, self-help fellowships, supportive housing and transitional employment. The importance of interdisciplinary professionals that provide concrete services, psychiatric, medical, vocational, recreational, individual, group and family counseling and support a comprehensive team approach will be included, as well as human and legal rights, social inclusion and the challenges of vulnerable populations with co-morbidity.

DSAB 232 Dual Diagnosis 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces the student to the various integrated models of treatment for consumers who simultaneously experience a mental illness condition as well as chemical dependency diagnosis. The student will become familiar with assessments, interventions, relapse prevention, treatment planning and level of care for various types of dual diagnoses including non-addicting pharmacology. Specifically, students will understand the relationship between polysubstance use and psychosis, schizophrenia, cognition, affective, mood and personality disorders including the remission of one or both disorders. The prevalence of dual disorders within the homeless and prison system will be explored. Working with the family and other resources, including self-help fellowships are presented.

DSAB 233 Elements of Behavioral Health Counseling 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course will give the student an overview of the counseling profession within the behavioral health field. Theories are introduced followed by specific counseling skill interventions that are a staple in the helping process. This includes establishing a therapeutic alliance, active-listening, use of empathy, transference, countertransference and clinical interventions for specific behavioral health diagnoses. Competencies for intake interviewing, bio-psychosocial assessments,

fundamentals of treatment planning, and the referral/termination process along with cultural considerations are presented. Counselor ethics and self-care, use of supervision and professional development are explored.

DSAB 234 Mad People's History 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course is offered from the perspective of those who have been coined as mad, crazy or mentally ill. The importance of narrative expressions are reviewed in order to educate the student how Mad People's encounters with unconventional thoughts and behaviors are viewed by society as odd, unusual or peculiar. Their personal experiences and challenges with stigma, stereotypes, prejudice, oppression, discrimination, and lack of inclusion are examined from the early history of abuse and institutionalization, to current societal beliefs. The impact of Mad People simultaneously living with individual psychological factors, which are perceived as out of the ordinary, and the general public's misunderstandings are evaluated. The need to utilize personal stories to impact current and future perceptions, treatment and human dignity are explored.

DSAB 235 Peer Wellness and Recovery 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Nationally, the emphasis on developing skills to support peer counseling, wellness and recovery have become more important in recent years. Individuals with behavioral and mental health issues live, on average, 25 years less than other adults in the same age group. This course will focus on understanding the dynamics of peer wellness and peer recovery programs, including self-advocacy. Information about health conditions, co-occurring conditions, modifiable risk factors, and coaching and communication strategies to support lifestyle changes will be included. Students will learn to develop a peer wellness curriculum and identify strengths and weaknesses in this approach to behavioral health.

DSAB 241 Disability and Comparative Religion 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

The ancient connection between faith and disability remains complex as well as conflicted and contradictory. On one hand, many traditions consider persons with disability as possessors of special insights or other seemingly magical powers; other traditions, or indeed sometimes the same traditions, consider disabled persons signs of the deity's vengeance, anger or disappointment for actual or supposed sins, either with respect to a particular family or an entire community. Differently formed infants have until recently been considered "monsters," and have been subject to infanticide. This course will examine issues such as these in the three major monotheistic faiths, as well as in the faiths of the ancient world. The test of this examination will come in the form of ethical reflection and review, particularly in the contexts of bioethics and end-of-life issues.

DSAB 242 Disability and Mass Media 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course will explore how the public views disabled individuals, and how they view themselves. Students will learn to analyze how disability is portrayed in journalism, photography, film, comic art, advertising and the Internet. The impact of stigma on mass media imagery and representation will be explored. A major emphasis of this course will be the use of social media and other online platforms and their effect on disabled individuals, their construction of identity, and self-representation.

DSAB 243 Disability, Music and The Arts 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

The study of music and other performing and visual arts, like other aspects of culture, opens up new ways of understanding disability. The course considers persons with disabilities who write and make music, paint, dance, and take photographs and those, disabled or not, who experience these creative acts, as well as those persons with disabilities who are the subjects of these creative enterprises. We will also analyze how persons with disabilities are often excluded from participating in these artistic fields.

DSAB 244 Diversity and Disability 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on disability and identity in comparison with other 'minority' identities such as race, class, gender and ethnicity. Students will explore dimensions of disability identity and models, as well as critiques of those definitions and models, including the medical model, bio-psycho-social model, the socio-political model, and postmodern accounts of disability identity. The nature of ableism, exclusion, and intersecting systems and structures of disability oppression will be explored, as well as strategies for increasing liberation and freedom of disabled individuals.

- DSAB 245** **Universal Design and Assistive Technology** **3 Credits**
Prerequisite: None
 This course examines the key issues framing access, opportunity, and physical inclusion for children and adults with disabilities, including veterans. The course will include an exploration of principles of universal design, reasonable accommodations in housing, education and employment, and the process of determining accommodation needs, the role of technology in enhancing access to the built environment and education, and the challenges of providing accommodation for hidden disabilities.
- DSAB 246** **War, Veterans, and Disability** **3 Credits**
Prerequisite: None
 For centuries, war has disabled both soldiers and civilizations who survived its ravages. Recently, however, significant advances in battlefield medicine have moved beyond M*A*S*H to the near-miraculous, and severely wounded soldiers, who in earlier conflicts would have died swiftly in foreign lands, have returned home to uncertain and often unwelcoming futures. This course will address two major issues. First, it will trace the history of disabled veterans and their re-entry into society, briefly considering the ancient world and then taking up the American experience with the Civil War and continuing to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; in doing so, we will explore Federal veterans policy, including benefits, rehabilitation, prosthetics and politics. Second, we will consider the philosophical question of whether war itself is a sign of a disabled or unbalanced society. Course materials will include fiction, drama, film, and scholarly secondary works.
- DSAB 251** **Disability and Families** **3 Credits**
Prerequisite: None
 The experience of disabled people in families will be explored, including the use of autobiographical narratives and personal accounts to address critical issues across the life span. Course topics will include the sociology of the family, the experience of parenting a child with a disability, and the perspectives of siblings of family members with disabilities. Also included are the family life of disabled adults, including marriage and parenting, and caring for aging parents with disabilities.
- DSAB 252** **Vocational Mentoring** **3 Credits**
Prerequisite: None
 This course will prepare the practitioner to assess the vocational and work readiness of those with physical, mental and developmental disabilities. An introduction to vocational, educational and employment assessment through a strengths-based perspective is explored. Basic skills of empathy, active listening, setting career/skill goals, monitoring performance, guidance, supportive feedback and mentoring are presented. Techniques to promote positive professional actions as well as aiding the consumer with problem solving competencies are demonstrated. Community resources, including VESID, legislative guidelines for accommodation and universal design, as well as the readiness of job placement and transitional labor settings are explored.
- DSAB 311** **Elements of Person Centered Planning** **3 Credits**
Prerequisite: None
 One of the foundations of service delivery is gathering and evaluating information to inform service planning. A variety of approaches to planning for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities will be explored, including understanding what typical assessments measure, how they are used and what they tell us about strengths and needs. Students will explore how to elicit information from service recipients, their family and friends, create community maps, and develop meaningful person centered plans.
- DSAB 312** **Supporting Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities** **3 Credits**
Prerequisite: None
 Children and adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may require structured instructional strategies to learn decision-making, everyday skills, and activities that can significantly increase independence and self-determination. This course will examine a wide variety of approaches to familiarize students with commonly used techniques to teach daily living skills and decision-making. Strategies to involve disabled individuals at every level of planning and implementation, as well as methods of documenting progress, will be a focus of this course. The importance of developing self-advocacy skills in young adults will be emphasized.

DSAB 321 Using Assessments for Intervention, Planning and Placement 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Comprehensive assessment is a critical component in serving individuals with ASD. An effective assessment highlights the strengths and needs of individuals with autism, and informs intervention, planning and placement decisions. Currently, a number of ASD-specific assessment tools exist, allowing clinicians and researchers to reliably make autism diagnoses within the first three years of life. Aside from diagnosis, assessment should evaluate the social, communication, adaptive and behavioral presentation of individuals with ASD. This course will describe appropriate assessment procedures and considerations for individuals with ASD, and highlight both normative and criterion-based assessment tools. The importance of a multi-disciplinary approach towards assessment and person centered planning will also be discussed.

DSAB 322 Teaching Strategies and Behavioral Supports 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Children and adults who have autism spectrum disorders (ASD) require comprehensive educational and treatment services. There are a myriad of approaches currently recommended to practitioners and parents, but little is known about their efficacy. This course will present current practice and evidence based research on effective assessment, evaluation, intervention and treatment of individuals with ASD with an emphasis on how to assess the effectiveness of the major therapies that have been developed to treat these disorders.

DSAB 331 Introduction to Mental, Behavioral and Developmental Disorders 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to the common disorders encountered in the field of mental health, behavioral health and developmental disabilities. This includes psychotic, mood, affective, personality, addiction, behavioral and developmental disorders. Students will become familiar with the most commonly utilized instruments and how they are used to assess symptom criteria. The origins of these disorders, theoretical perspectives and implications for treatment will be examined. Case studies will enhance the application of case management and interventions in community based settings.

DSAB 332 Introduction to Crisis-Intervention and Safety 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to the various types and prevalence of crisis situations that require professional intervention. Behaviors that include violence, suicide, homicide, self-injury, and sexual harassment are assessed. Specific considerations for those at high risk for a crisis situation are explored. This includes those who are experiencing bereavement, loss, depression, mental illness, substance abuse, a health crisis or life challenge. The maltreatment of minors, older adults, partners and the disabled are highlighted. Case studies and utilization of crisis-intervention techniques for specific situations are presented. Professional ethical standards for required interventions and their clinical application are reviewed.

DSAB 341 Disability, Evolution, Eugenics and Genomics 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course traces the history of Eugenics from the 1860's to the present. Students will be introduced to the mid-19th-century science of improving the human race by the encouragement of marriage and childbearing by those considered to have "desirable" traits and the segregation, sterilization or killing of those regarded as "unfit." The work of Charles Darwin will be studied, leading to the work of Darwin's half-cousin Sir Francis Galton, who took Darwin's theory in a new direction and coined the term Eugenics. Eugenic beliefs and practices, as expanded by others, chiefly in Britain and the United States, came to murderous fruition in Nazi Germany. After World War II, most thinkers regarded Eugenics as a "pseudo-science," and disability rights advocates saw any hint of Eugenics as fraught with dangers for persons with disabilities. Recently, advances in Genomics and the Human Genome Project appear to hold the promise of "designer babies" and a world free of many diseases and disabilities. As disability scholars, we must therefore explore the question: Could this mean a world free of persons with disabilities?

DSAB 342 Representations of Disability in Film and Literature 3 Credits

Prerequisite: None

Film, since the beginning of the 20th century, and literature, since ancient times, have shown us what is best and worst in our society and helped us to imagine life in new ways. Disability historian Paul K. Longmore has written that films mirror views of persons with disabilities that prevail in society, for good or for ill, depicting persons with disabilities as monsters or criminals, as persons who should and often heroically do adjust to fit their environments, as either hyper-sexual or sexless beings, and,

only recently, as individuals, whose experiences and lives have meaning both in connection with and independent of their impairments. The field of literature and disability is vast; students will read plays, as well as selected fiction and poetry by and about persons with disabilities.

DSAB 358 **Selected Topics in Disability Studies** **3 Credits**

Prerequisite: Departmental permission

This course offers qualified students the opportunity to study special topics in Disability Studies that may vary from semester to semester.

DSAB 359 **Independent Study in Disability Studies** **3 Credits**

Prerequisite: Departmental permission

This course allows students to focus on an independent research or project conducted under faculty guidance. The course requires a written contract and report.

DSAB 449 **Internship in Disability Studies** **3 Credits**

Prerequisite: Departmental permission

This option consists of an off-campus internship experience supervised by a faculty member. The venue must be approved by the faculty member and/or the program and, depending on the nature of the planned internship activity, an on-site supervisor may be required. The internship must be the focus of no less than 150 hours of student work. Weekly discussions of each student's internship will be conducted online. This course requires students to write a paper based on their internship.

DSAB 499 **Capstone: Senior Research Project** **3 Credits**

Prerequisites: Departmental Permission

All students will complete a Capstone project under the direction of a faculty mentor, with a topic within the concentration in which the student has completed at least three courses. This senior research project will build upon work done in previous courses, allowing students to apply methods of scholarly and/or action research to specific issues related to disability. Projects may be completed in small research groups or individually.

NURS 314 **Case Management in Health and Human Services** **3 Credits**

Prerequisite: None

Case management is a collaborative process that assesses, plans, implements, coordinates, monitors, and evaluates the options and services required to meet the client's health and human service needs. It is characterized by advocacy, communication, and resource management and promotes quality and cost-effective interventions and outcomes. In this course students will learn the essentials of case management and develop skills necessary to become an effective case manager.

RM 201 **Introduction to Research Methods** **3 Credits**

Prerequisite: None

This course provides an introduction to research approaches characteristic of the social and behavioral sciences. These involve observations of behavior and other strategies that result in descriptive accounts, including field studies, content analysis, and surveys. Statistical methods for analyzing descriptive data, including measures of central tendency and variability and graphing will be included, along with questions about validity and research ethics. The course engages students in the planning, conducting, reporting and evaluation of research.